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COUNTRY

Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

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TOPIC Military Information from Potsdam

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EVALUATION see below

DATE OF CONTENT 2 October to 4 November 1951

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 27 November 1951

REFERENCES

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PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Between 25 October and 4 November 1951, Soviet soldiers, who wore black epaulets with signal insignia, were seen in the Ruinenberg Kaserne, Potsdam (N 53/Z 63).

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2. A board fence, 2 meters high, was constructed around the requisitioned residential area bounded by Parkstrasse, Wildenbruchstrasse and Gregor Mendel Strasse, Potsdam, at the beginning of October. German craftsmen working there said that a Soviet headquarters was to move into the compound. Signal troops were seen laying a 50-mm cable in a ditch, 1 meter deep, from the Ruinenberg Kaserne to the newly fenced residential area. (1)

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3. On 29 October, artillery pieces were observed being cleaned and repaired in the southern section of the Delius Kaserne. Old gun barrels seen lying in front of the armory included: 14 122-mm, 2 152-mm and 7 of about 100-mm. At about

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7:45 a.m. on 24 October,

22 officers with baggage, left the barracks installation. [redacted] a total of 80 officers went to the U.S.S.R. on leave. About 2,200 troops with rifles and submachine guns were seen marching from the southern section to the northern section of the Delius Kaserne at about 9:50 a.m. on 8 October. They subsequently assembled in five blocks of 8 ranks each, occupying the whole area between the headquarters building and the motor vehicle repair shop. The headquarters units were estimated at about 40 men each, and the batteries at 90 to 100 men each. [redacted]

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4. On 20 October, [redacted] Army General Chuikov lived on the second floor of a heavily guarded building at 22 Virchow Strasse, formerly Luisenstrasse, in the Soviet-restricted area of Pabelberg. Other army generals were billeted at 9 and 18 Virchowstrasse; air force generals at 14, 16 and 17 Freiligrathstrasse; and an admiral at 38 Stubenrauchstrasse. A four-wheel special trailer, [redacted]

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mounting a radio mast, measuring about 30 meters, was seen at 11 Teltowerstrasse. A radio unit of about 400 troops was quartered on the premises of the former Frieske & Hoepfner factory at 10-12 Ernst Thaelmann Strasse. The headquarters of the unit [redacted] was located at 26 Augustastrasse. [redacted]

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billetting area of the radio unit. On 24 October, [redacted] the arrival of officers, who attended the regular Wednesday briefing given by Army General Chuikov. About 70 to 80 sedans and jeeps were parked in a patch of woods at the intersection of August Bebel Strasse and Jaegersteig during the period of the briefing. The vehicles for the first time included three sedans of the German Volkspolizei. The conversion of 18 villas into quarters was allegedly to be completed by 15 November. [redacted]

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5. A column of trucks and 12 caterpillar tractors, towing 150-mm field guns, was seen moving from the Delius Kaserne, Potsdam, toward Schloss Lichtenstedt (castle) via Bornstedt at 10:30 a.m. on 15 October. Each truck carried 25 soldiers, who were equipped with carbines or submachine guns, radio sets and aiming circles. Each caterpillar tractor carried 1 driver and 1 officer. [redacted]

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6. On 1 October, five 76-mm AA guns were emplaced in the terrain bounded by Ernst Thaelmann Strasse, Mendelssohn Bartholdy Strasse, Steinstrasse and In der Aue Strasse, about 200 meters north of Ernst Thaelmann Strasse, Babelsberg. Several soldiers, who apparently belonged to the gun crews, were seen in the nearby houses. Two of the five AA guns were photographed. (4) [redacted]

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